
MICHAAN'S AUCTIONS

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PRESS RELEASE!

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Auction:
Estate Auction
featuring fine art, decorative arts, Asian art and jewelry
October 7

Previews:
October 5 - 7

Location:
Michaan's Auctions
2751 Todd Street
Alameda, CA 94501
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Certified Jade, Collectible Artworks at Michaan's

The fine art selection in the October Estate Auction will include over 160 lots from the 18th to 20th centuries. The sale is comprised of, but not limited to, oil paintings, watercolors, etchings and woodblock prints as well as bronze and marble sculpture. Subjects range from landscapes to portraiture to genre paintings, with a large representation from European and American artists. American artist Frederick William Becker's "Cypress Tree" is featured as lot 150 in the sale (\$2,000-4,000). "Cypress Tree" is one such vibrant realist landscape oil in which the artist masterfully juxtaposes two natural subjects. A cypress tree is depicted on a seaside cliff with many of its branches clinging to the earth, helping to stabilize its position. In contrast, the ocean is seen in the background, fluid and effortless in nature. The image was inspired by the scenic 17-Mile Drive route along the Carmel/Monterey stretch of the road. Signed "Frederick Becker."

The jewelry selection offers over 175 lots with a wide variety of gemstone jewelry and Native American pieces available in October. Jade pieces are also substantially represented in bracelets, rings, pendants and brooches, including multiple lots of certified jadeite jade. Highlighting the sale is a gorgeous jade ring fashionably set in an Art Deco inspired mounting. The certified jade cabochon measures a substantial 11.7 x

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18.1 x 8.1 mm and displays an ideal clover green hue with a lovely translucency. The simplicity of the jade is wonderfully complimented by the clean, angular lines of the mounting; a beautiful marriage of East and West. The ring will be offered as lot 433 at an auction estimate of \$7,000-8,000.

The Asian Department presents over 160 lots, primarily from the 19th to 20th centuries. Scrolls, porcelains, bronzes, jade objects, furniture and Japanese artworks are amongst the available pieces. Lot 631 is a quality Japanese artwork of particular interest and one that is almost universally misunderstood. The album is dated to the 19th century and contains twelve erotic paintings in pencil and watercolor. Generally, this type of art known as shunga sought to express an ideal view of middle class urban Japanese society. Shunga was largely perceived as conveying the enjoyment of life and not as a form of pornography, therefore, it did not detract from the artist's reputation or prestige. The intriguing painting collection will be auctioned at an estimate of \$500-700.

Arguably the finest teddy bear on the market, Steiff stuffed bears were born from a company unlike any other. German-born Margarete Steiff was diagnosed with polio in 1852. Despite her condition, she went on to establish a small sewing business. In 1902 Richard Steiff, Margarete's favorite nephew, joined the company. Although Margarete was skeptical, she allowed Richard to present a bear design at the Leipzig Toy Fair. A breakthrough came when an American businessman took notice of the bear, buying 3,000 of them. From 1906 on it was then sold under the name "Teddy bear" after U.S. President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt. The success of the Teddy bear brought the company to new international heights and established Steiff as the inventor of the Teddy bear. Lot 1007 is a collection of six original vintage Steiff Teddy bears. The lot includes an "Original Teddy", two "Zotty" bears, one "Cosy Orsi" bear and two "Teddy Baby" bears (\$300-400). Three other Steiff lots of assorted stuffed animals will also be available in the sale.

The illustrated auction catalog will be online for review at www.michaans.com. Previews open at Michaan's Auctions on October the 5th and continue until October 7th, the day of auction. For more information please visit our website or call the front desk at (510) 740-0220.

About Michaan's Auctions

Michaan's Auctions is a leading full service auction house on the West Coast. Specializing in the appraisals and sale of antiques and fine art, Michaan's has specialists in the fields of Furniture and Decorative Arts, Modern, Contemporary Art, European and American Paintings and Prints, Jewelry, Asian Works of Art and Ethnographic Art.

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Established in 2002, Michaan's Auctions holds up to thirty sales each year attracting a broad base of buyers and consignors from all over the world. With one of the largest facilities in Northern California and the Bay Area's lowest buyers premium Michaan's offers buyers and sellers the opportunity to preview and bid on many unique and desirable property. Some of these pieces realized world record prices. In 2005 A.D.M. Cooper's oil painting, Three Graces 1915, sold for a record \$21,060 and an Eduard Gaertner oil, German City Street Scene 1831, sold for \$266,000.

Michaan's has built its reputation on its ability to accept single items, groups or entire estates with its "no risk consignment policy" free of hidden fees and charges. Michaan's specialists are dedicated to staying current on the latest issues and developments in the market and are committed to providing personalized and professional attention throughout the entire auction process.

For a full listing of upcoming auctions or to view a complete catalog, please visit www.michaans.com.